The George Mentzers

It is not surprising to find a number of cases showing that several different persons having the same name came to Pennsylvania at different times. That has sometimes led to confusion of identity in genealogical research carried on in later years. Thus there are three persons named "George Mentzer" (variously spelled) who are listed in "Pennsylvania German Pioneers" by Strassburger and Hinke. Each of these signed either the oath of allegiance or of abjuration and fidelity or both. The laws of colonial Pennsylvania required that these oaths had to be signed by all males, sixteen years of age or older, who were not British citizens and who came into the port of Philadelphia.

There is the following information about the three "George Mentzers".

(A) Hans George Mentzer came to Philadelphia on the ship "Townsend" along with Wendel Zwicker and others. According to lists 48 A, B, & C, they signed the oaths on 5 October 1737. Obviously, each must have been at least sixteen years old at that time.

(B) Hance George Mentzer arrived in Philadelphia on the ship "William". According to Lists 50 A & B, he signed on 31 October 1737. I know nothing more about this man.

(C) George Mentzer came with his father, Johan Maintzer, his step mother, Catharine, his sister, Anna Maria, and possibly his brother Johan, and his half brothers Conrad and John Michael, to Philadelphia on the ship "Brothers". List 169C shows that the father George, and Conrad subscribed to the oath on 16 September 1751. It is not clear whether or not Johan, the oldest son, really signed. He may have been sick that day.

According to the birth record of the family of Johan Maintzer, George was born on 21 July 1727. The original record brought from the church in Wagsfeld,